

REMARKS**I. Status of the Claims:**

Claims 1-22 are currently pending in the application. Claims 3 and 16-19 have been withdrawn from consideration. Claims 7-15 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

By this Amendment, claims 1-6 and 16-22 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, and claim 7 has been amended to place the claim in independent allowable form.

Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 7-15 would be pending and the application would be in allowable form. No new matter is introduced by this Amendment and thus entry and consideration of this Amendment are respectfully requested.

II. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102 & § 103:

Claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 21 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Cresson (US Pat No. 5,101,661). Claim 5 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cresson. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Cresson in view of Whitehead (US Patent No. 3,141,250).

These claims have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer, rendering the rejection moot.

CONCLUSION

Based on the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims and allowance of this application.

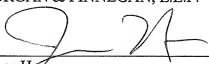
AUTHORIZATION

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required for consideration of this Amendment and Request for Reconsideration to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-5202.

In the event that an extension of time is required, or which may be required in addition to that requested in a petition for an extension of time, the Commissioner is requested to grant a petition for that extension of time which is required to make this response timely and is hereby authorized to charge any fee for such an extension of time or credit any overpayment for an extension of time to Deposit Account No. 13-4500, Order No. 1232-5202.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: September 21, 2006 By: _____


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